IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

WEST et al

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For: METALLOTHIONEIN BASED NEURONAL THERAPEUTIC AND THERAPEUTIC

METHODS

December 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: